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WO 01/18547 A1

(54) Title: ESSENTIAL GENES AND ASSAYS RELATING THERETO

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to screening assays for compounds which have a physiological (e.g. harmful or beneficial) effect on proteins identified as being essential. The inventors have identified nucleic acid sequence from genes encoding proteins which are thought to be essential, the lack of expression of which leads to a lethal or semi-lethal phenotype and have described assays which may be conducted to screen for suitable compounds. The present invention also relates to novel sequence per se.